

19 March 2013

In a Christian way we learn today for tomorrow

“Take a deep breath – it calms the mind.”

Dear Parents, Pupils and Parishioners,

COOL AT SCHOOL

Well, that was **ST PATRICK** as we celebrated his Feast Day on Friday. (As well as celebrating our new **Pope, Francis 1st**). We all had a “cool” day with iceblocks, apples, buddy classes and House Team Sports.

YOUR GENEROSITY

We raised **\$328** in our Lenten cointrail for **CARITAS** last week – **BRILLIANT**.

BEACH CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to our 2 teams (Year 7 / 8 and Year 4 – 6) who competed at the Ocean Beach Rugby 5's Competition last week. No wind, mild surf and natural speed assisted our Year 4 – 6 team to take out the 2013 title! Thank you parents and coaches for your transport and encouragement. I hear our pupils were excellent ambassadors for St Patrick's School. (As they should be)



NO SCHOOL TOMORROW AFTERNOON – (WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH)

Taradale / Tamatea bus will run at **12.30!** Can all other parents **PLEASE COLLECT YOUR CHILDREN AT 12.30**. For those unable to have their children in the afternoon, activities and supervision will be provided for the afternoon. After School Care will be running as usual. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**

STRIKE PERCUSSION THIS THURSDAY (PLEASE BRING \$3)

This Thursday morning (21st) the school will be entertained by ‘Strike Percussion’ – N.Z.’s premiere percussion group, showcasing styles from around the world. Each child needs to bring **\$3** to their teacher by this Wednesday. (Total cost is \$5, but subsidized by your G.P.F Donation).

YEAR 7 ACTIVITY DAY THIS FRIDAY (NOT FEBRUARY!)

Our Year 7 pupils spend a day at Pandora Pond this Friday kayaking and exploring the Estuary. A great way of challenging themselves, teamwork building and getting to know each other even better. Have a great day.



BE PREPARED FOR A NEW ADVENTURE

Girl Guiding is for girls from 8 – 18 years. They are involved in activities, thrive in an environment that encourages them to be themselves, while at the same time having fun through friendship and adventure. We are looking for Pippins (5 – 6 yrs), Brownies (7 – 9 ½ yrs) & Guides (9 ½ - 13 yrs). Call 0800.222.292 to find out more.



INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS and ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

I.C.A.S Any Year 4 – 8 pupils wishing to participate in the Australasian tests as part of our enrichment programme. Tests in Computer Skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and Maths are available. **ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY 22nd MARCH** (no late entries accepted).

MATHLETICS WEBSITE – OPEN TO PUPILS

Mathletics online covers all aspects of mathematics and responds to individual needs. The programme allows children to work at their own pace or they can challenge other students from all over the world in real time competitions. Students signing up will have full access to the site for 12 months. See your child's teacher if interested for an application form. Access to the site costs **\$30**. (**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 27 MARCH**)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION – WE NEED YOUR HELP

Every three years we elect a new Board of Trustees to provide support to the Principal and Staff of St Patrick's School.

The Board of Trustees has a wide range of responsibilities including finance, property, administration, charter and policy, supporting the Catholic Character of our school and encouraging the staff to provide the best learning environment we can at St Patrick's. We therefore require a wide cross section of parents to represent the diversity of our community and to bring a wide range of skills to the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees meets monthly for a maximum of two hours so the time commitment is not significant. A small amount of reading is required prior to each meeting and if you are elected to a sub-committee then you may be involved in an additional 2 or 3 meetings a year.

Trustees are paid a small amount for their attendance at BOT meetings. The payment is made at the end of each year.

If you would like more information about being a Trustee please phone Shane Gibson (Chairman) 843.0180 or Jurek Wypych (Principal) on 843.9238. If you are interested in serving as a Trustee or you would like to nominate someone as a Trustee forms will be sent out to you next week.

Note: Please check out our school website www.stpatsnapier.school.nz for more information.

CONCERNS WHO TO CONTACT

If you have any concerns about school matters the Board of Trustees would encourage you to take the matter to the appropriate person as soon as possible. Below is a handy reference list for first contact, and of people to whom you could go if you feel that more needs to be done. **THE MOST HELPFUL THING FOR YOU, OUR BOARD, AND OUR PUPILS, IS FOR YOU TO RAISE ANY CONCERNS YOU HAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

1. Arrange an acceptable time to meet with the appropriate person.
2. The class teacher is always the first person to talk to.
3. The Principal is always available to talk to parents who have exhausted the first avenue of approach, or have any concerns of a serious or sensitive nature, or wish to discuss matters concerning the school generally.
4. A Board of Trustees member or the Chairperson is the next alternative, if other avenues have been exhausted, or you feel that your concerns have not been dealt with effectively.

LAST WEEK'S QUIZ

Turn a deaf ear

Regards & Blessings

Jurek Wypych
PRINCIPAL

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

CCCCCC